AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently amended) A cage member as defined in claim ~~2~~ 8, wherein said at least one arm portion comprises two arm portions which are positioned opposite of one another.

4. (Currently amended) A cage member ~~as defined in claim 3, wherein~~ engageable with a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough, thereby providing a cage nut assembly, said cage member comprising:

a body configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member when the nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said body defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said body being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of the nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said body provides a limited range of movement of the nut member in three dimensions, said body configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member within the limited range of movement of the nut member provided by said body, said body further comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage the first portion of the nut member, wherein said at least one arm portion comprises two arm portions which are positioned opposite of one another, said base portion is rectangular such that said base portion has four corners, one of said arm portions extending from one of said corners of said base portion and said other one of said arm portions extending from another one of said corners of said base portion.

5. (Currently amended) A cage member as defined in claim ~~3~~ 4, wherein said opposite facing arm portions define an opening therebetween, said opening sized to receive the nut member therethrough when the first portion of the nut member is engaged by said two arm portions.

6. (Original) A cage member as defined in claim 5, wherein each said arm portion has a generally C-shaped portion, said C-shaped portions being positioned opposite one another and defining said opening.

7. (Currently amended) A cage member as defined in claim ~~2~~ 4, wherein said at least one arm portion is formed of a flexible material.

8. (Currently amended) A cage member ~~as defined in claim 2, wherein~~ engageable with a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough, thereby providing a cage nut assembly, said cage member comprising:

a body configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member when the nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said body defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said body being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of the nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said body provides a limited range of movement of the nut member in three dimensions, said body configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member within the limited range of movement of the nut member provided by said body, said body further comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage the first portion of the nut member, said at least one wall portion comprises first and second wall portions, and wherein said at least one arm portion can be moved to allow the second portion of the nut member to be positioned above said base portion of said body and between said first and second wall portions of said body.

9-11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently amended) An assembly as defined in claim ~~11~~ 20, wherein said at least one arm portion comprises two arm portions which are positioned opposite of one another.

13. (Currently amended) An assembly ~~as defined in claim 12 wherein~~ configured to receive a fastener, said assembly comprising:

a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough; and

a cage member configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member when said nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said cage member defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said cage member being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of said nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said cage member provides a limited range of movement of said nut member in three dimensions, said body configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member within the limited range of movement of said nut member provided by said cage member, said cage member comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage said first portion of said nut member, said at least one arm portion comprises two arm portions which are positioned opposite of one another, said base portion is rectangular such that said base portion has four corners, one of said arm portions extending from one of said corners of said base portion and said other one of said arm portions extending from another one of said corners of said base portion.

14. (Previously presented) An assembly as defined in claim 13, wherein said opposite facing arm portions define an opening therebetween, said opening sized to receive said nut member therethrough when said first portion of said nut member is engaged by said two arm portions.

15. (Original) An assembly as defined in claim 14, wherein each said arm portion has a generally C-shaped portion, said C-shaped portions being positioned opposite one another and defining said opening.

16. (Previously presented) An assembly as defined in claim 14, wherein said two arm portions have top surfaces, said first portion of said nut member being positioned on said top surfaces of said two arm portions such that said second portion of said nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion.

17. (Previously presented) An assembly as defined in claim 16, wherein said first portion of said nut member has protrusions extending therefrom, said protrusions being positioned against said upper surfaces of said two arm portions.

18. (Previously presented) An assembly as defined in claim 16, wherein said base portion of said cage member has a generally planar upper surface, said upper surfaces of said two arm portions being generally parallel to said upper surface of said base portion of said cage member.

19. (Currently amended) An assembly as defined in claim ~~11~~ 20, wherein said at least one arm portion is formed of a flexible material.

20. (Currently amended) An assembly ~~as defined in claim 11, wherein~~ configured to receive a fastener, said assembly comprising:

a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough; and

a cage member configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member when said nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said cage member defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said cage member being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of said nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said cage member provides a limited range of movement of said nut member in three dimensions, said body configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member within the limited range of movement of said nut member provided by said cage member, said cage member comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage said first portion of said nut member, said at least one wall portion comprises first and second wall portions, and wherein said at least one arm portion can be moved to allow said second portion of said nut member to be positioned above said base portion of said cage member and between said first and second wall portions of said cage member.

21-26. (Cancelled).

27. (Previously presented) An assembly as defined in claim 13, wherein said nut member has a first plate, a second plate and a member which connects said first plate to said second plate, each said plate having an upper surface and a lower surface, said member extending between said upper surface of said first plate and said lower surface of said second plate, said aperture of said nut member extending through said first plate, said member and said second plate.

28-43. (Cancelled).

44. (Previously presented) An assembly configured to receive a fastener, said assembly comprising:

a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough; and

a cage member configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member when said nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said cage member defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said cage member being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of said nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said cage member provides a limited range of movement of said nut member in at least one dimension, said body configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member within the limited range of movement of said nut member provided by said cage member, said cage member comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage said first portion of said nut member, said at least one arm portion comprises two arm portions which are positioned opposite of one another, said base portion is rectangular such that said base portion has four corners, one of said arm portions extending from one of said corners of said base portion and said other one of said arm portions extending from another one of said corners of said base portion, said opposite facing arm portions define an opening therebetween, said opening sized to receive said nut member therethrough when said first portion of said nut member is engaged by said two arm portions, said two arm portions have top surfaces, said first portion of said nut member being positioned on said top surfaces of said two arm portions such that said second portion of said nut

member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion.

45. (Previously presented) An assembly as defined in claim 44, wherein said first portion of said nut member has protrusions extending therefrom, said protrusions being positioned against said upper surfaces of said two arm portions.

46. (Previously presented) An assembly as defined in claim 44, wherein said base portion of said cage member has a generally planar upper surface, said upper surfaces of said two arm portions being generally parallel to said upper surface of said base portion of said cage member.

47. (Previously presented) An assembly configured to receive a fastener, said assembly comprising:

a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough, said nut member has a first plate, a second plate and a member which connects said first plate to said second plate, each said plate having an upper surface and a lower surface, said member extending between said upper surface of said first plate and said lower surface of said second plate, said aperture of said nut member extending through said first plate, said member and said second plate; and

a cage member configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member when said nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said cage member defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said cage member being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of said nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said cage member provides a limited range of movement of said nut member in at least one dimension, said body configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member within the limited range of movement of said nut member provided by said cage member, said cage member comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage said first portion of said nut member, said at least one arm portion comprises two arm portions which are positioned opposite of one another, said base portion is rectangular such that said base portion has four corners, one of said arm portions extending from one of said corners of said base portion and said other one of said arm portions extending from another one of said corners of said base portion.

48. (Cancelled).

49. (Currently amended) A cage member ~~as defined in claim 2, wherein~~ engageable with a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough, thereby providing a cage nut assembly, said cage member comprising:

a body configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member when the nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said body defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said body being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of the nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said body provides a limited range of movement of the nut member in three dimensions, said body configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member within the limited range of movement of the nut member provided by said body, said body further comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage the first portion of the nut member, said body further comprises at least one arm portion which extends directly from said base portion.

50. (Currently amended) An assembly ~~as defined in claim 11, wherein~~ configured to receive a fastener, said assembly comprising:

a nut member having a first portion, a second portion and an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough; and

a cage member configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member when said nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said cage member defining a base portion and at least one wall portion, said cage member being configured to engage the first portion of the nut member such that the second portion of said nut member does not come into contact with either said base portion or said at least one wall portion such that said cage member provides a limited range of movement of said nut member in three dimensions, said body configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member within the limited range of movement of said nut member provided by said cage member, said cage member comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to engage said first portion of said nut member, said cage member comprises at least one arm portion which extends directly from said base portion.

51. (Currently amended) A cage member as defined in claim ~~3~~ 4, wherein said two arm portions extend from opposite sides of said base portion.

52. (Currently amended) A cage member as defined in claim ~~3~~ 4, wherein said two arm portions are configured to move independently of one another.

53. (Currently amended) An assembly as defined in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein said two arm portions extend from opposite sides of said base portion.

54. (Currently amended) An assembly as defined in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein said two arm portions are configured to move independently of one another.

55. (Currently amended) A cage member ~~as defined in claim 33, wherein~~ engageable with a nut member having an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough to receive a fastener therein, thereby providing a cage nut assembly, said cage member comprising:

a body configured to encage the nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member when the nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said body defining a base portion, said body engaging the nut member such that the nut member is suspended off of said base portion, said body provides a limited range of movement of the nut member in three dimensions, said body configured to allow access to the aperture of the nut member within the limited range of movement of the nut member provided by said body, said body further comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to suspend the nut member off of said base portion prior to the fastener being received in the aperture of the nut member, said at least one arm portion extends directly from said base portion.

56. (Currently amended) An assembly ~~as defined in claim 38, wherein~~ configured to receive a fastener, said assembly comprising:

a nut member having an aperture which extends at least partially therethrough to receive the fastener therein; and

a cage member configured to encage said nut member and having an aperture formed therein, said aperture configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member when said nut member is generally encaged by said cage member, said cage member defining a base portion, said body engaging said nut member such that said nut member is suspended off of said base portion, said cage member provides a limited range of movement of said nut member in three dimensions, said cage member configured to allow access to said aperture of said nut member within the limited range of movement of said nut member provided by said cage member, said cage member further comprises at least one arm portion which extends from said base portion and serves to suspend said nut member off of said base portion prior to the fastener being received in said aperture of said nut member, said at least one arm portion extends directly from said base portion.

57. (Cancelled).

58. (Cancelled).